The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers / L'Association canadienne des professeurs de langues secondes

CASLT/ACPLS

NEWS RELEASE

Release of the Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality.
Second Language Learning Programs Vital to Official Language Communities, says National Language Teachers' Association.

Ottawa, June 20, 2008 – The Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) welcomes the release of the Government of Canada's *Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality 2008-2013* and the investment of 1.1 billion dollars over fiver years to encourage linguistic duality among Canadians.

CASLT believes that quality second language learning programs are a key element in maintaining the vitality of official language communities. Canadians who learn a second official language not only help strengthen and build bridges between the country's linguistic communities, but also encourage the production and dissemination of French and English language culture throughout the country. CASLT is thus most pleased with the Roadmap's recognition of the central role that arts and culture play in building Canada's linguistic duality and will continue to support teachers in finding ways to integrate culture into language learning. "There is a great demand for cultural resources that second language teachers can use in their classrooms," says CASLT President John Erskine. "Resource development, pre and in-service training for teachers to maintain their linguistic and cultural competencies, research and development of innovative practices, and the sharing of information and ideas among second language teachers are areas that we will continue to focus on in order to enhance second language learning programs for all Canadians".

CASLT looks forward to working with all stakeholders in order to implement the Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality. CASLT believes the Roadmap will complement its initiatives which support official languages teaching and learning.

Established in 1970, the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) increases awareness, appreciation and understanding of the importance of second language teaching and learning throughout Canada and promotes the advancement of professional excellence among language educators. Visit us at www.caslt.org.

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